GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1607
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2016
GM Pluses
Galla Shri Jayadev

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Group of Secretaries has recommended promotion of chickpea and pigeon-pea (arhar) as GM pulses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said recommendation has been referred to the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC) for their observation and approval; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken by the GEAC in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJIBHAI KUNDARIYA)

(a) to (d): Group of Secretaries has recommended fast tracking of Biosafety Regulatory Level 1 (BRL1) trial and for resolving regulatory issues of GM crops. These recommendations have been shared between the Ministry and other Departments of Government of India including Ministry of Environment and Forest.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Pulses Research, Kanpur has developed transgenic events for resistance against gram pod borer in chickpea and pigeonpea. Application has been submitted to Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) for event selection trials of four transgenic events, two each in chickpea and pigeonpea. After the selection of appropriate events and clearance of RCGM, transgenic events will be submitted to GEAC for further observation and approval of BRL1 Trial.

****